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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Moscow Oblast)
 SUBJECT Wages and Prices in Moscow

REPORT

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 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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The following is a list of wages and prices prevailing in Moscow in December 1953:

<u>Employment</u>	<u>WAGES</u> <u>Monthly Salary</u> (in rubles)	<u>Notes</u>
Top level intellectual workers	4,000	Maximum
Stakhanovite technician	3,000	Maximum
Factory chief engineer, manager, etc.	2,000	Minimum
Main departmental head	1,500	Minimum (occasionally includes apartment)
Sub departmental head	1,400	
Trolley bus driver	1,500	Abnormally high
Engineer	800 - 1,300	
Hotel night watchman	800	Plus food on duty
Workman	700 - 800	
Truck driver	800	
Chauffeur	700	

25 YEAR
 RE-REVIEW

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<u>Employment</u>	<u>Monthly Salary</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Clerical worker (upper grade)	600 - 1,150	
Clerical worker (typist, bookkeeper)	400 - 600	
Hotel maid	500	Plus food on duty
Cleaner, street cleaner	350	Plus accommodation

PRICES

a. <u>Food</u>	<u>Price</u> (in rubles)	<u>Quantity</u>
(1) <u>Bread</u>		
Wheat	1.65 - 1.95	kg
Black	1.10	kg
(2) <u>Cookies</u>		
Poor quality	8.00	kg
Shortbread	37.50	kg
Chocolate cookies	78.00	kg
Highest quality	140.00	kg
(3) <u>Meat</u>		
Beef	9.00 - 13.00	kg
Mutton	12.00 - 15.00	kg
Pork	18.00 - 22.00	kg
Ham	27.00	kg
Chicken	18.00	kg
(4) <u>Fish</u>		
Cod (fresh)	10.00 - 20.00	kg
Cod (cured)	6.00	kg
Black caviar		
best quality	127.00	kg
second quality	81.00	kg
pressed	88.00	kg
Red caviar	48.60	kg
second quality	37.10	kg
(5) <u>Butter, etc.</u>		
Butter	25.00 - 29.00	kg
Cheese	32.00 - 37.00	kg
Margarine	14.00 - 80.00 ¹	kg
Lard	26.00	kg
Milk	2.20 - 7.00	Liter
(6) <u>Eggs</u>	1.00 - 1.20	each
(7) <u>Tea, etc.</u>		
Tea, best quality	10.60	per 100 gm
first quality	8.40	
second quality	6.80	
Sugar, granulated	9.40	kg
lump	10.70	kg

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	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity or</u> <u>Remarks</u>
(8) <u>Fruit</u>		
Apples	6.00 - 10.00	kg
Oranges (large)	3.00	each
(9) <u>Miscellaneous</u>		
Chocolate (block)	61.00 - 210.00	kg
Candy	35.00 - 75.00	kg
Mineral water - Narzan	1.20	Including bottle
Fruit drinks	3.70	Including bottle
Average meal in restaurant	20.00 - 25.00	
b. <u>Accommodation</u>		
One room	70.00	per month
Two rooms	130.00	per month
c. <u>Clothing</u>		
(1) <u>Men's</u>		
Suit - two piece	900.00	Average
Overcoat	from 900.00	
Fur hat, good quality	100.00 - 160.00	
Fur hat, poor quality	60.00	
Tie	from 20.00	
Shirt (collar attached)	60.00 - 120.00	
Woolen sweater	90.00	
Undershirt	12.00	
Socks	11.40	per pair
(2) <u>Women's</u>		
Cotton dress	170.00 - 250.00	
Woolen dress	400.00 - 450.00	
Silk dress	from 600.00	
(3) <u>Children's</u>		
Boy's suit	390.00	
Girl's woolen dress	190.00 - 360.00	
Girl's cotton dress	100.00	
(4) <u>Footwear</u>		
Leather shoes (men's)	69.00 - 480.00	
average	140.00 - 330.00	
Galoshes	30.00 - 38.00	
Leather shoes (women's)	175.00 - 350.00	
average	240.00 - 310.00	
Children's shoes	26.00 - 90.00	
average	32.00 - 50.00	
Children's overshoes	16.00	
d. <u>Tobacco and Drink</u>		
(1) <u>Drink</u>		
Vodka (Stolichnaya)	25.00 - 90.00	$\frac{1}{4}$ liter
Brandy (Cognac)	33.30 - 37.00	$\frac{1}{4}$ liter
Wine (Georgian)	22.95	$\frac{1}{4}$ liter
Soviet champagne	26.00	$\frac{1}{4}$ liter
Beer	2.90 - 6.00	$\frac{1}{2}$ liter

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	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity or</u> <u>Remarks</u>
<u>(2) Cigarettes</u>		
Kavkaz	6.15	per pk. of 20
Drug	4.10	per pk. of 20
Prima	1.34	per pk. of 20
Belomorsk (Papirosy)	1.60	per pk. of 25
Kazbek (Papirosy)	3.50	per pk. of 25
Best quality (Papirosy)	7.10	per pk. of 25
Tobacco	2.90 - 4.80	per 100 gm
Matches	0.10	per box

e. Luxury Articles

Radio set (5-tube)	650.00 - 990.00	
Radio tubes	11.50 - 21.29	
Television	2,380.00	large
	1,275.00	small
Phonograph	320.00	
Phonograph records	3.20 - 7.60	
long playing corundum needles	4.50	
Accordion	330.00 - 490.00	
Balalayka	42.00	
Child's sled	30.00	
Skating boots	180.00 - 250.00	
Football boots	135.00 - 180.00	
Bicycle	630.00	
Bicycle tire	40.00	
Inner tube	25.00 - 30.00	
Motorcycle	2,300.00	
Cars - Pobeda	16,000.00	
ZIM	42,000.00	
Typewriter	1,030.00	
Tape recorder	1,800.00	
Camera, Kiev (Zeiss type)	2,750.00-3,100.00	
box, Lyubitel	136.00	

f. Miscellaneous Consumer Goods(1) Toilet articles

Toilet soap	1.35 - 5.10	
Household soap	2.10	
Shaving soap	2.10	
Shaving cream	2.50	
Shaving brush	3.40	
Razor blades	3.60	for 10
Tooth paste	2.00	
Toothbrush	2.65	
Nail scissors	4.40 and up	
Lipstick	3.65	

(2) Stationery

Fountain pen	44.00	Parker type
Fountain pen, steel nib	22.00	Poor quality
Writing paper	2.00	20 sheets, lined
Envelopes	0.10	each
Typing paper	6.00	250 sheets
Roll of tracing paper	8.00	87 cm x 10 m
Stapler	32.00 - 42.00	
Staples	8.50	1,000

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g. Mail and Telegraph

(1) Letters

Local letters (2 oz.)	0.40 ²
Letters outside Moscow	1.20 ²

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	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity or Remarks</u>
(1) <u>Letters</u> , (cont.)		
Letters abroad (overland)	0.40	
Letters abroad (air)	1.40	
Postcards abroad (air)	1.10	
(2) <u>Telegrams</u>		
Telegrams, local	0.30	per word
Telegrams, international (to England)	0.70	per word
Minimum charge for ELT	8.27	
(3) <u>Telephone</u> (call box)	0.15	
h. <u>Entertainment</u>		
Theater	5.00 -35.00	
Movie theater	3.00 - 6.00	
Circus	10.00 -19.00	
Tretyakovskaya Gallery	3.00	
Football stadium	2.00 -10.00	
i. <u>Transportation</u>		
(1) <u>Moscow Local</u>		
Subway	0.45	any distance
Bus	0.15	per kilometer
Trolley bus	0.15	per kilometer
Trolley car	0.30	any distance
Taxi (Pobeda)	2.00	per kilometer
(2) <u>Train</u>		
Moscow - Leningrad	404.50	International
	174.60	Soft
	96.00	Hard
Moscow - Vladivostok	1,344.00	Soft
Moscow - Tashkent	600.00	Soft
Moscow - Kiev	195.00	Soft
	115.00	Hard
(3) <u>Air</u>		
Moscow - Leningrad	247.50	
Moscow - Kiev	252.50	
Moscow - Vladivostok	1,707.00	

Comments

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1. Eighty should probably be 18.
2. According to available information, the charge for a domestic, overland letter weighing 20 grams is 40 kopeks.

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